

# QurAlis Announces Appointment of new Chief Medical Officer and Formation of Clinical Advisory Board

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**Rare disease and neurology expert Dr. Angela Genge to lead QurAlis' clinical R&D for ALS and FTD**

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass., October 29, 2020** — QurAlis Corporation, a biotech company focused on developing precision medicines for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and other neurologic diseases, today announced the appointment of Angela Genge, MD, FRCP(C), eMBA to the position of Chief Medical Officer (CMO). Dr. Genge is the Executive Director of the Montreal Neurological Institute's Clinical Research Unit and the Director of Montreal Neurological Hospital's ALS Global Center of Excellence.

The company also announced the formation of its Clinical Advisory Board, which will work closely with Dr. Genge on QurAlis' clinical research and development programs in ALS and frontotemporal dementia (FTD) as the company prepares to move its pipeline to the clinical stage.

"As QurAlis grows and advances quickly toward the clinic, we are proud to welcome to the team Dr. Genge, a world-renowned expert in ALS clinical drug development, and announce the highly esteemed group of ALS experts who will be forming our Clinical Advisory Board," said Kasper Roet, PhD, Chief Executive Officer of QurAlis. "Dr. Genge has been treating patients and studying and developing therapeutics and clinical trials for ALS and other rare neurologic diseases for more than 25 years, diligently serving these vulnerable patient populations. Along with our newly formed Clinical Advisory Board, having a CMO with this extensive expertise, understanding and experience is invaluable to our success. Dr. Genge and our Board members are tremendous assets for our team who will undoubtedly help us advance on the best path toward the clinic, and we look forward to working with them to conquer ALS."

Previously, Dr. Genge directed other clinics at the Montreal Neurological Hospital including the Neuromuscular Disease Clinic and the Neuropathic Pain Clinic. In 2014, she was a Distinguished Clinical Investigator in Novartis' Global Neuroscience Clinical Development Unit, and she has served as an independent consultant for dozens of companies developing and launching neurological therapeutics. Dr. Genge has served in professorial positions at McGill University since 1994.

"At this pivotal period in its journey, QurAlis is equipped with a strong, committed leadership team and promising precision medicine preclinical assets, and I look forward to joining the company as CMO," said Dr. Genge. "This is an exciting opportunity to further strengthen my work in ALS and other neurological diseases, and I intend to continue innovating and expanding possibilities for the treatment of rare neurological diseases alongside the dedicated QurAlis team."

## **QurAlis' new Clinical Advisory Board Members are:**

### **1. Ammar Al-Chalabi, MB, ChB, PhD**

Dr. Al-Chalabi is a Professor of Neurology and Complex Disease Genetics at the Maurice Wohl Clinical Neuroscience Institute, Head of the Department of Basic and Clinical Neuroscience, and Director of the King's Motor Neuron Disease Care and Research Centre. Dr. Al-Chalabi trained in medicine in Leicester and London, and subsequently became a consultant neurologist at King's College Hospital.

### **2. Jinsy Andrews, MD, MSc**

Dr. Andrews is an Associate Professor of Neurology in the Division of Neuromuscular Medicine at Columbia University, and serves as the University's Director of Neuromuscular Clinical Trials. She currently oversees neuromuscular clinical trials and cares for patients with neuromuscular disease, primarily with ALS. Dr. Andrews is the elected co-chair of the Northeastern ALS (NEALS) Consortium and is also elected to the National Board of Trustees of the ALS Association.

### **3. Merit Cudkowicz, MD, MSc**

Dr. Cudkowicz is the Julianne Dorn Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School and Chief of Neurology and Director of the Sean M. Healey & AMG Center for ALS at Mass General Hospital. As co-founder and former co-chair of the Northeast ALS Consortium, she accelerated the development of ALS treatments for people with ALS, leading pioneering trials using antisense oligonucleotides, new therapeutic treatments and adaptive trial designs. Through the Healey Center at Mass General, she is leading the first platform trial for people with ALS.

### **4. Dame Pamela J. Shaw, DBE, MBBS, MD, FRCP, FMedSci, FAAN, FANA, FAAAS**

Dr. Shaw serves as Director of the Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience, the NIHR Biomedical Research Centre Translational Neuroscience for Chronic Neurological Disorders, and the Sheffield Care and Research Centre for Motor Neuron Disorders. She also serves as Consultant Neurologist at the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Since 1991, she has led a major multidisciplinary program of research investigating genetic, molecular and neurochemical factors underlying neurodegenerative disorders of the human motor system.

### **5. Philip Van Damme, MD, PhD**

Dr. Van Damme is a Professor of Neurology and director of the Neuromuscular Reference Center at the University Hospital Leuven in Belgium. He directs a multidisciplinary team for ALS care and clinical research that is actively involved in ALS clinical trials, but is also working on the genetics of ALS, biomarkers of ALS, and disease mechanisms using different disease models, including patient-derived induced pluripotent stem cells.

### **6. Leonard van den Berg, MD, PhD**

Dr. van den Berg is a professor of neurology who holds a chair in experimental neurology of motor neuron diseases at the University Medical Center Utrecht in the Netherlands. He also is director of the center's Laboratory for Neuromuscular Disease, director of the Netherlands ALS Center, chairman of the Neuromuscular Centre the Netherlands, and chairman of the European Network to Cure ALS (ENCALS), a network of the European ALS Centres.

## About ALS

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease impacting nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. ALS breaks down nerve cells, reducing muscle function and causing loss of muscle control. ALS can be traced to mutations in over 25 different genes and is often caused by a combination of multiple sub-forms of the condition. Its average life expectancy is three years, and there is currently no cure for the disease.

About QurAlis Corporation QurAlis is bringing hope to the ALS community by developing breakthrough precision medicines for this devastating disease. Our stem cell technologies generate proprietary human neuronal models that enable us to more effectively discover and develop innovative therapies for genetically validated targets. We are advancing three antisense and small molecule programs addressing sub-forms of the disease that account for the majority of patients. Together with a world-class network of thought leaders, drug developers and patient advocates, our team is rising to the challenge of conquering ALS. [www.quralis.com](http://www.quralis.com)

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